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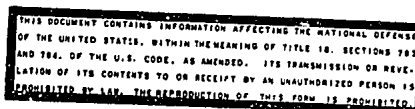
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ORGANIZATION OF SOVIET TROOPS FACING IRAN

/Place names marked by an asterisk (*) are transliterations of the Persian./

The following report on the organization and disposition of the Soviet Army has been compiled by Tehran Mossavar as a result of minute study of a large amount of data together with reports from both foreign and domestic military leaders as well as from persons connected with military affairs and Soviet refugees who for years resided along the Iran-USSR border.

The Border

Along the Iran-USSR border the Soviets have cleared all inhabitants for a depth of 80 kilometers. At the border itself they have erected a series of barbed wire /entanglements/ connected to wooden or iron pillars. Under these pillars are explosives and mines which will detonate merely by touching the pillar or the barbed wires. Behind this barbed wire there is a road.

This road is soft and smooth. It is covered with tar and fine sand and is always kept soft with chemicals. Any footprint on this road will be noticed immediately. Furthermore, this road is mined and the particular features of the mined locations can be distinguished only by the border troops.

Border Posts

Behind this barbed wire and road, the Soviets have established, in addition to normal frontier establishments, a series of 138 command posts and thousands of forward posts. Of these 138 command posts, 71 are located across the frontier of Iranian Azerbaijan, nine along the Caspian Sea coast, 22 posts face Gorgan, and 48 posts face Khorasan /Note that these add to 150/. The nine command posts located along the Caspian Sea coast are supplemented by 71 observation posts within Iran which are operated under the name of Shilat information center.

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The command posts are of battalion strength, completely equipped with all things necessary to execute a war, including tanks, artillery, anti-aircraft equipment, communication systems, and other services and support units.

From the command posts, trenches extend in all directions. These trenches are occupied at all times by six guards equipped with light and heavy arms. In addition to these trenches, there are numerous forward posts between each command post. These forward posts are equipped with various communications equipment.

The living conditions of Soviet border troops are better than those of the average Soviet citizen. The border troops in this area receive better clothing and housing, and are even permitted luxurious living, including prostitutes who are imported once a week for a 24-hour stay.

Military Districts and Troop Concentrations

The USSR has both stationary and mobile troops along her southern border. The major portion of the stationary troops, which are located at the border, is under the control of Beriya, Minister of Internal Affairs USSR. The mobile troops, located behind the stationary troops, are under the control of the Soviet Army.

Currently, the border troops are engaged in the construction of cement blockhouses. These blockhouses, which have already been completed in the As-tara area, are similar to the ancient Iranian fortresses.

The Soviet Army which faces Iran is divided into four groups, which maintain constant communications with each other. These groups have a defense plan, for use in the event of an unexpected attack, which includes the course of action for each. These defense plans are exchanged every 6 months.

The most important concentrations of Soviet armed forces which face Iran are as follows:

1. Yerevan, Nakhichevan, Armenian District

This district is under the control of the Soviet Fourth Army which was recently reinforced and has now increased its troops near the Turkish border. The important centers of Soviet border troops in this district are Nakhichevan, Dzbul'fa, and Arabnikja*.

2. Caucasus District

The headquarters for this district is located at Baku. Important border troop centers are located at Khuda Afarin, Aslanduz*, Larijan*, Bakhran Tepe, Belyasuvor, Parvanbol*, Yersheb*, Golgaz*, Astara, and Gevi Tepe*.

3. Caspian Air and Naval District

The headquarters for this district is located at Krasnovodsk. This district does not include any land forces. The warship and small armed boats are under the control of the Minister of Navy USSR. The Shilat Company [Iranian-USSR Fisheries] has 44 observation posts [note that a figure of 71 was given previously for the Shilat information center] in the Caspian Sea which furnish military information for this command.

Krasnovodsk is the largest center of air force concentration in this area of the USSR. This air force is supplied with thousands of aircraft, which include jets and long-range bombers.

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4. Eastern Caspian Sea District Turkestan Military District

Headquarters for this district are located at Ashkhabad. The important border troop centers are at Kyzyl Atrek, Kara Kara, Kava Tepe, Khanaqasr*, Germab, Kaakhka, Serakhs, and Dushak.

The Soviets have approximately four to six mixed and full divisions along the border, each with motorized artillery, air, cavalry, and infantry units. In addition, the Soviets have reinforcements consisting of about 20 divisions which can come to the aid of any spot on the border within a few hours. These forces are concentrated at Lenkoran, Nakhichevan, Yerevan, Ashkhabad, and Mary.

The airfields located in this region are equipped with the latest equipment.

The main rail communication system in the Caucasus includes the railroad from Baku to Tbilisi and the railroad from Grozny to Stavropol' and Rostov.

The railroads in the Eastern Caspian Sea section are the Krasnovodsk-Ashkhabad railroad and the Orsk-Rakuja Rybach'ye? (Kirgizia) railroad.

Probable Soviet Attack Routes

In the event of a third world war, according to military experts and leaders, the Soviets will attack Iran by the following routes:

Southern Caucasus Region

The units in this region, with headquarters in Yerevan, are concentrated in the Armenian SSR. A portion of these units will, in the event of a war, attack Turkey. A second group, with the aid of the reserves, which are located in Yerevan and Nakhichevan, will enter Iran through Por-i-Dasht. This force, utilizing the road west of Rezaiyeh Lake, will head toward Kurdistan and Qasr-i-Shirin. The third unit from Armenia, which will move south on the east side of Rezaiyeh Lake, will enter Iran through Jalfa, Marand, Tabriz, and Mian-dub and join the forces coming down west of Rezaiyeh Lake in Kurdistan.

Eastern Caucasus Region

The Soviet forces in this region will penetrate the Dasht-i-Moghan area, through Khuda Afarin. This unit will be supported, indirectly, by the third unit from the Armenian SSR, coming through Jalfa and Tabriz. The Khuda Afarin unit will be flanked on the Caspian Sea Coast by the second Caucasus unit from Baku, Lenkoran, and Soviet Astara. The latter group will enter Iran through Iranian Astara. A portion of this group will head toward Tabriz through Ardebil, while the balance of the group will head toward Tehran via Bandar Pahlavi, Resht, and Qazvin.

Eastern Caspian Sea Region

The Ashkhabad groups, which are composed of several motorized divisions, will leave Ashkhabad and, taking advantage of the terrain of Turkestan and Khorasan, will enter Khorasan and move toward Baluchistan and Gorgan. The third motorized group from the Turkmen SSR will depart from Sarekhs, Ashkhabad, Firuz, and Tang-i-Allah Akbar and move south.

The main objective of this force moving south would be to sever the line of communications between India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Iran. After completing this mission, they would prepare for an attack on the oil regions in the Middle East.

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